

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A ~~metadirectory system~~ for communicating data changes comprising:
 - a plurality of adapter peers each associated with a respective source system and each ~~for~~ communicating data changes ~~regarding data of defined data types~~, each adapter peer communicating with other adapter peers in a peer-to-peer fashion;
 - a first join engine peer configured to communicate ~~for communicating~~ with adapter peers in the peer-to-peer fashion and process ~~for combining~~ data for the adapter peers to generate data of defined data types ~~and wherein the first join engine peer is also performs for performing data transformations regarding data from the adapter peers~~; and
 - a first plurality of communication channels for broadcasting data changes from the plurality of adapter peers and for broadcasting the data of defined data types generated by the first join engine peer, each communication channel of the first plurality of communication channels associated with a particular data type.
2. (Currently Amended) A ~~metadirectory system~~ as described in Claim 1 wherein the first join engine peer is also generates ~~for generating~~ queries for data of specific data types and further comprising a second plurality of communications ~~communication~~ channels for broadcasting the queries and wherein each channel of the second plurality of communication channels is associated with a particular data type.
3. (Currently Amended) A ~~metadirectory system~~ as described in Claim 2 wherein adapter peers respond to the queries by broadcasting data over one or more communication channels dedicated to responding to the queries of the first join engine peer.
4. (Currently Amended) A ~~metadirectory system~~ as described in Claim 2 wherein the first join engine peer generates the queries in response to a data change received from an adapter peer.
5. (Currently Amended) A ~~metadirectory system~~ as described in Claim 4 wherein the data generated by the first join engine peer relates to a third data type comprising a first data type and a second data type and wherein ~~the queries are generated in response to the data change~~

~~to is of~~ the first data type and wherein the second data type is supplied in response to the queries.

6. (Currently Amended) A ~~metadirectory~~ system as described in Claim 1 wherein the plurality of adapter peers ~~and the first join engine peer~~ are each software processes, ~~wherein at least two of the software processes operate on a same server system~~.
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Cancelled)
9. (Currently Amended) A ~~metadirectory~~ system as described in Claim 1 wherein the data of the defined data types generated by the first join engine peer comprises a consolidated view of data associated with two or more other data types.
10. (Currently Amended) A ~~metadirectory~~ system as described in Claim 1 further comprising a second join engine peer ~~for communicating configured to communicate~~ with adapter peers and the first join engine peer in the peer-to-peer fashion and ~~for combining combine~~ data from adapter peers and from the first join engine peer to generate data of defined data types and wherein the second join engine peer is—also ~~for performing performs~~ data transformations.

11 – 36. (Withdrawn)

37. (Currently Amended) A ~~metadirectory~~ system as described in Claim 1 wherein an adapter peer of the plurality of adapter peers is partitioned into a first adapter peer and a second adapter peer, wherein the first adapter peer is dedicated to providing information for a first data type and the second adapter peer is dedicated to providing information for a second data type.
38. (Currently Amended) A ~~metadirectory~~ system as described in Claim 1 wherein the first join engine peer is partitioned into a second join engine peer and a third join engine peer, wherein the second join engine peer is dedicated to performing a first join specification and the third join engine peer is dedicated to performing a second join specification.

39. (New) A system as described in Claim 1 wherein the first join engine peer also performs data transformations on data received from the adapter peers.